

# *Lines from Linda*

## INSIDE THE IVORY TOWER

FIRST IN A SERIES



51 Madison Avenue, New York, New York  
Home of the American Kennel Club

Exiting the elevator on the twentieth floor and getting my first glimpse of the oil paintings lining the hallway, I'm like a little kid in F. A. O. Schwartz. So this is the "Ivory Tower", our American Kennel Club headquarters. Wow, I love this! Immediately I was welcomed by Ch. Poco's Little Bear Fawn Hill and her owner, receptionist Joan Katulak. Yes, employees of the American Kennel Club

bring their dogs to work. "Bear" was dressed in his holiday finest. Before I had a chance to sit down to enjoy the dog paintings surrounding the lobby, Wayne Cavanaugh was out to begin our day. Sensitive, caring, genuine, delightful, intellectual, dynamic dynamo, friend, father, husband...all words I would personally use to describe Wayne R,

### *Part One A visit with Wayne Cavanaugh*

Cavanaugh, Vice-President of Communications of the American Kennel Club. After my recent visit to 51 Madison Avenue in New York and a day with Wayne Cavanaugh as my host, I left with many emotions. First, I felt so proud to be a part of our dog world and extremely fortunate to count among my friends, the Wayne Cavanaugh family. I mentioned family as you cannot separate Wayne the man from his lovely wife Cheryl and the two children he worships, Hayley and Brody.

He came to the post of vice-president of the AKC at the young age of thirty eight. I believe Wayne to be the youngest ever

to hold that high position. In fact, he was born for such a title. A third generation dog fancier, his grandfather, John Cavanaugh bred Kerry Blue Terriers and Chow Chows. His father, Raymond Cavanaugh Bred Beagles and English Setters and was a licensed assistant handler.

Wayne received his first points on one of his dad's Beagles when he was only eight years old. The late Joe Rotella of Manlove Setters gave Wayne two English Setter puppies of his own when he was eight. At age ten he won the Brandywine



Receptionist Joan Katulak and "Bear," Ch. Poco's Little Bear Fawn Hill welcome visitors to the inner sanctum

*by Linda Ayers Turner Knorr*





Breathtaking oil paintings grace the walls at AKC; this one is in Mr. Cavanaugh's office

English Setter Specialty from the American bred class with one of his pups, Ch. Manlove's Bonanza, beating Bill Trainor, Bob Forsyth and George Alston handling their specials. Realizing that to be some feat, Wayne eventually went to work for all of them to learn how it should really be done. As a Junior

Handler, the young redhead qualified for Westminster a few times, never winning as he could not reach both ends of a Setter simultaneously. The Pointer, Ch. Bukany's Poppycock was acquired from Ralph Del Deo when Wayne was seventeen. He co-owned her with another Setter junior handler, Laurel Howel of Clariho English Setters. Poppycock was Best of Winners at the

National her first time out and went on to do some fine winning.

At eighteen, Wayne went to work for Bob and Jane Forsyth at Grayarlin. He credits them as being absolutely and immensely instrumental in giving him the greatest education ever in dogs, as well as teaching him by example how to do the right things...from dining out to saving money. Most importantly, they taught him that he could win by showing dogs down the line, not by chasing judges and not by having to bad mouth the competition. Wayne believes them to be two of the last true professionals who could teach all breeds and the right way at the same time. Leaving Grayarlin to go to college, Wayne kept working weekends on circuits whenever possible. He expressed the emotion that one never really leaves Grayarlin. "I have this feeling in the after life I will somehow being working for "Mother."

In addition to his college training, Wayne worked some circuits and weekends for Bill Trainor and George Alston also depending where he was physically with school. From them he learned a lot about trimming the "old fashioned way" (the right way from George when it comes to Sporting dogs). George also introduced Wayne to palm trees and digital gas pumps. He remembers the fun they experienced winning everything in sight at one Florida circuit. Wayne knew George

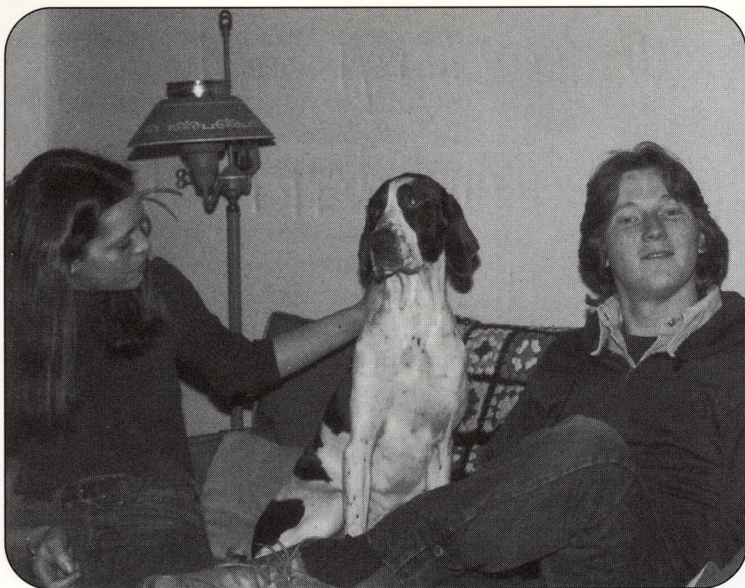


Oil portrait by Wayne Cavanaugh  
This painting hangs in the office of his secretary, Dawn Borghese



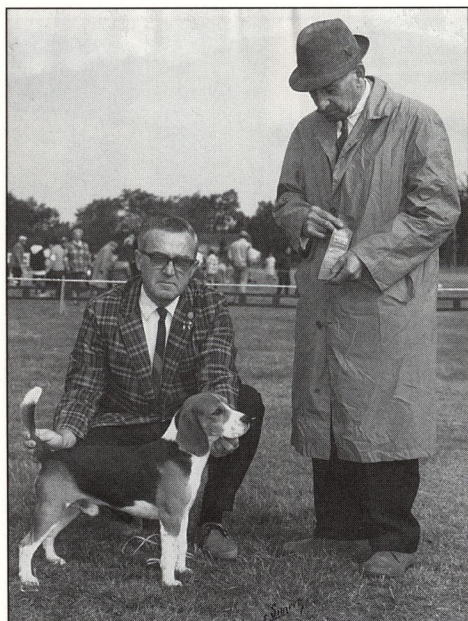
The author and Mr. Cavanaugh, on the way to lunch





College days - Cheryl, Ch. Bikany's Poppycock, and Wayne

and Mary Anne before they knew each other. They have also had a great influence on his life in and out of dogs. In 1978 the versatile young Cavanaugh graduated from Stockton State with a B.A. in literature and won the New Jersey English College Teachers Award for Editor Of The Year for a college literary journal. He was also elected Senior of the Year for poetry and prose and was granted a full academic graduate studies scholarship to the Universities of Iowa,



Wayne's father, Raymond Cavanaugh, in 1965 with multiple Group winner Ch. Herold's Prince Charles. Judge: Alva Rosenberg, Northwestern Kennel Club

Florida and Arizona for writing. While in Stockton, he met a beautiful woman in a purple ski parka waiting in the lunch line. They discovered that they went to the same high school but had never met. When he went to meet her parents, he found that they bred Boxers, including one who won a bunch of silver at the American Boxer Club

Specialty, Ch. Aquilla's Panzer. Her dad's Boxers were handled by Bud Sliney and, you guessed it, Jane Kamp. Panzer was born the same week as Cheryl and they were inseparable until he died at age sixteen. The Aquilla breeding was instru-



Ch. Rossearra Amontillado of Crookrise Winner of the 1980 American Pointer Club National; sire of 26 Champions and 4 Best in Show winners out of only 7 litters

secretary of the AKC at the time. What a small world!

After his marriage to his lovely wife Cheryl Anne in 1981, Wayne went to work for AT&T as a manager of technical documentation. Transfers and moves around the industry because of the breakup of the phone company (which has proved to be the dumbest decision a

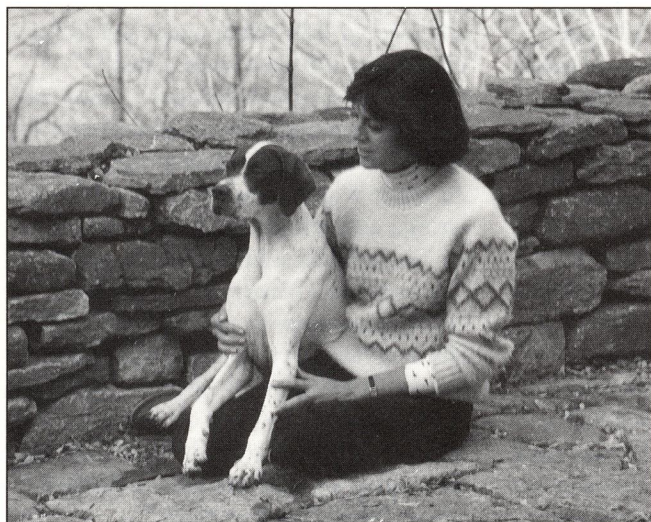


Christmas 1993 - left to right, Cheryl, Hayley, "Target," Brody, and Wayne Cavanaugh

mental in the foundation of today's famous Jacquet line of Ric Tomita's. By the way, Wayne and Cheryl had to go across the street to let the dogs out for her parents' neighbors. The neighbors were Mark and Alice Mooty. Mark was the

judge ever made) took them to Boca Raton, Florida where the couple decided they did not ever want to leave. Next, to quote Wayne, "We moved to Tucker and Norcross, Georgia where I worked at Stone Mountain, the residence





Cheryl, with Ch. Crookrise Maude

of Roy and Hazel Ayers who I regret not meeting earlier in life because they too are among the cream of the crop of teachers in doing it right by example! I eventually ended up back in New Jersey at AT&T in communications where I received the fateful phone call from Robert Maxwell in 1991. . . I came to the AKC on April Fool's Day, 1991. When Mr. Maxwell called and asked if I wanted to leave the security and sanity of AT&T for a job at the AKC for half the money, half the benefits, (don't believe any of that garbage you read in the dog press, I'm here to tell you the benefits stink!) and twice the hours, I couldn't resist. I am blessed with the greatest staff in the world. Together we have taken a division of three people and, with the support of

Robert Maxwell and the Board, have expanded it to include a children's education department, a promotional video department, a public relations department that has really gotten us into the media, and a canine legislation department that is clearly the world's most definitive authority on dog laws. We are extremely proud of the division's many successes and are most proud of winning the Gold Seal Award

for Public Relations out of over 1,100 corporations."

During his many years at AT&T he also worked at the race track as an assistant to some of the nation's top thoroughbred trainers. It is a passion he will always have, and while he eventually decided not to make the switch from dogs to horses, Wayne often thinks of going back someday. Learning about horses is an excellent way to learn about dogs. Cavanaugh learned a

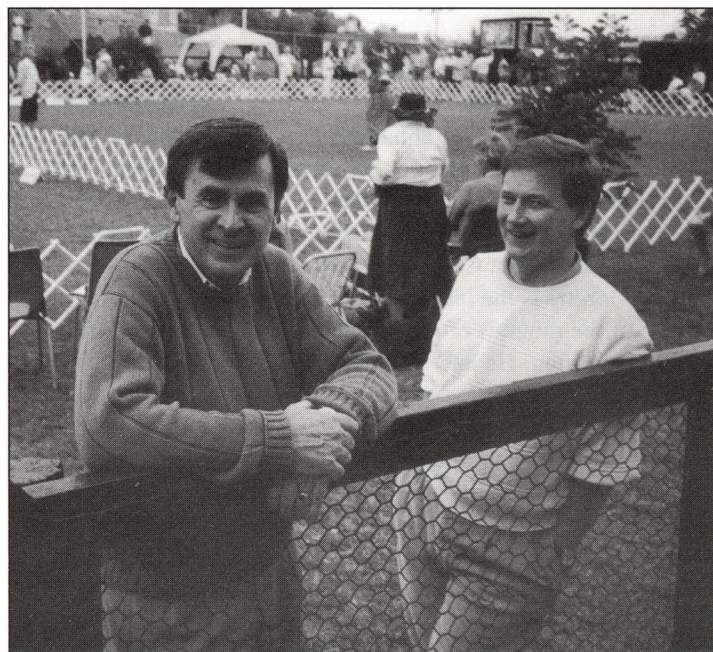
lot from Buddy Raines, a venerable old "hard boot" who trained "Greek Money" to win the Preakness in 1954. For a time, the young animal lover says he would work from 4a.m. to 8a.m. to get the first set of horses ready, run to AT&T, shower and dress for work, go back at lunch to feed, and return after work to bed down the horses for the night. He said he loved every minute of it!

Along the way, Wayne bred a bunch of Pointers. Won the American Pointer Club National with Ch. Rossenarra Amontillado of Crookrise in 1980. Arguably the most influential



Ch. Onsage Vaguely Noble, Cavanaugh's last homebred dog shown before joining AKC  
Judge: Charles Mulock

sire in the breed's history in America, the dog was only bred seven times. He pro-



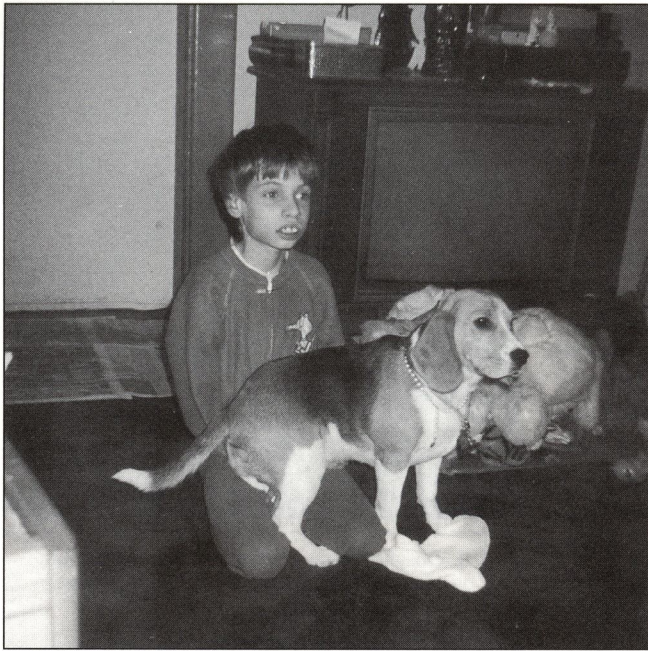
Wayne and Terry Stacey, working at shows in Bermuda



Judging, New Brunswick Kennel Club, 1991  
Winning is Read Barn Stella By Starlight  
owned by Karolynne McAteer

duced twenty six champions and four Best In Show winners. He stamped Pointer type, and his sons, too, became leading sires. Since he won the national fourteen years ago, his offspring have dominated the ribbons there by winning the breed all but four times and by picking up the majority of the points. The last dog shown by Wayne was Ch. Onsage Vaguely Noble, he finished with a few nice wins over specials and was placing regularly in Groups. He only showed him





T.J. Wolf and his best friend "Joy," a Christmas gift from Wayne to replace the child's stolen dog

one summer before having to stop because of his employment with the American Kennel Club. What impressed me most about our young AKC Vice-President under whose responsibilities are included Public Relations, Public Education, including children's education, Canine Legislation and the Gazette is the letter he took from the top of the mounds of mail he received just that morning. He had just read it when I entered his office and he cried. The letter was from the mother of T. J. Wolf, who Wayne befriended just last year. It seems that T. J., suffering from Cerebral Palsy and having learning disabilities and his mother stopped for a quick Christmas errand leaving T. J.'s wheelchair and his companion, Sesame, a Beagle in their van for just a few minutes. When they returned, someone had stolen the boy's wheelchair and his best friend, his dog. T. J. did not speak for three months. After reading of this tragedy in the New York newspapers, Wayne responded by finding a new Beagle puppy, Joy, and giving it to T. J.. The following letter is self explanatory: Dear Mr. Cavanaugh, As you can see in the pictures I've enclosed, T. J. and Joy are very happy together and they are both anticipating a very merry Christmas this year. You would be amazed at the difference in T. J. since you sent "Joy" to him last Christmas.

T. J. has, in the past year, grown two inches and gained about ten pounds. That is more growth than he has shown in the last six years of his life. It is almost as if he decided to try and grow with Joy. He has also learned some sign language and his teacher says he should soon be able to feed himself. These are all things that his doctors said would not happen and there are many more. Joy doesn't do everything for T. J. like Sesame did, she makes him do things with her. She challenges him and he responds to meet the challenge. It's almost as if she knows what he needs. That extra special bond is certainly there.

Joy has been

a blessing to all of us this year and I cannot thank you enough for sending to us this blessing we call "Joy," and she is a joy every day. May God bless you Mr. Cavanaugh for your gift of understanding and love. May your every Christmas be a merry Christmas. All our love, Laura Brooks, T. J. Wolf, Shannon and "Joy" Now you know why I describe Wayne Cavanaugh with the words in the beginning of this story. In addition to all of these accomplishments, Wayne won the "Winky", the Iams/Kennel Review Award for Writer Of The Year in 1991. He was nominated for Dog Man of the Year on two occasions and he wrote and published a booklet entitled, "The Inheritance of Coat Color in Pointers" after doing research with the late Dr. McCoy at Rutgers's Medical School. He served on the board of the American Pointer Club and the Monmouth County Kennel Club. He became an AKC judge! Wayne bred some of the first Pointers to become AKC Junior Hunters. His hobbies have includ-

ed breeding Bob White Quail and racing bicycles in 100-mile races. Cheryl Cavanaugh is allowed to drive a nice car but Wayne proudly drives and refuses to sell his 1978 Pontiac Bonneville. At lunch Wayne beamed as he talked of writing and performing country music. He has performed in rock bands in college and had a country act in Tucker, Georgia just prior to moving to the AKC. His daughter, Hayley at age two years knows all the words to country music star Jon Anderson's "Your Love's Better Than Money In The Bank" and is known for singing a mean rendition of George Jones' "High-Tec Red Neck." He longs to publish and have some of his songs recorded by major music stars such as Travis Tritt and Hank Williams, Jr. Is there anyone out there in the dog world with "connections?" Let's get Wayne nominated at next year's Country Music Awards.



In the office of AKC President, Bob Maxwell  
New York photos by the author

Commenting on his work at the American Kennel Club, Wayne said, "Bob Maxwell is clearly the reason that things are getting done at the AKC. He is an incredible motivator, a lot like the professor you wanted to please so you went the extra mile. Working the extra hours, working the weekends, you know it is appreciated by Bob. The sport has no idea how lucky we are to have him at the helm." Wayne, we are lucky to have you, too! ■